## Message Text

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**ACTION NEA-09** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /069 W

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R 031338Z JAN 75 FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6423 INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

CONFIDENTIAL JERUSALEM 0009

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, JO, US

SUBJ: JORDANIAN DEMARCHE ON JERUSALEM

REF: JERUSALEM 2202 AND 0005

1. SUPPLEMENTING INFO CONTAINED REFTELS, WE HAVE NOT LEARNED FROM JERUSALEM DEPUTY MAYOR MERON BENVENISTI THAT PARK DEVELOPMENT IS ALSO BEING PLANNED FOR WESTERN SLOPES OF MT. OF OLIVES AND MT. SCOPUS. SOME LAND ON SCOPUS IS HEBREW UNIVERSITY PROPERTY, BUT MOST LAND INVOLVED BELONGS TO VARIOUS CHURCHES. HE SAID NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEGUN WITH SOME CHURCHES AND THAT DEVELOPMENT WILL TAKE PLACE ONLY WITH CONSENT OF ALL CHURCHES INVOLVED.

2. BENVENISTI TOLD US THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT TO BE FINANCED IN PART BY IL ONE MILLION GRANT FROM MORMON CHURCH. HE DID NOT KNOW QUANTITY OF LAND INVOLVED BUT FROM HIS DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL AREA IT APPEARS TO BE RELATIVELY EXTENSIVE, COVERING SUBSTANTIALPORTION OF LAND ON THESE SLOPES NOT NOW OCCUPIED BY BUILDINGS OR CEMETERIES. WHETHER LAND IS PURCHASED OR OBTAINED ON LONG-TERM LEASE WILL DEPEND ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH OWNERS JUST NOW BEGINNING, IT IS HOPED WORK CAN START "WITHIN THE YEAR," BENVENISTI SAID, BUT THIS WILL ALSO DEPEND ON NEGOTIATIONS.

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3. COMMENT: THIS NEW PLAN MAY BE PRINCIPAL BASIS FOR

JORDANIAN COMPLAINT ABOUT CONVERSION OF CHRISTIAN CHURCH LAND
INTO PUBLIC PARK. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT PLAN WOULD
NOT, HOWEVER, AFFECT CHRISTIAN INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS
MONASTERIES MENTIONED IN GOJ MEMORANDUM.
DAY

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: LAND SETTLEMENT, DEMARCHE, URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS

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Subject: JORDANIAN DEMARCHE ON JERUSALEM TAGS: PFOR, IS, JO, US, (BENVENISTI, MERON)
To: STATE

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